

“Federal prisoners must exhaust their administrative remedies prior to filing § 2241 petitions.” *McClung v. Shearin*, 90 F. App’x 444, 445 (4th Cir. 2004) (No. 03-6952) (citing *Carmona v. U.S. Bureau of Prisons*, 243 F.3d 629, 634 (2d Cir. 2001); *Little v. Hopkins*, 638 F.2d 953, 953–54 (6th Cir. 1981)).³ Petitioner has not pursued any administrative remedies with respect to his demand to serve his sentence in a CCC. Therefore, Petitioner has failed to exhaust his administrative remedies.

Petitioner contends that exhaustion of administrative remedies should be excused on grounds of futility. *See Howard v. Ashcroft*, 248 F. Supp. 2d 518, 534 (M.D. La. 2003). Specifically, Petitioner contends that based on its interpretation of 18 U.S.C. § 3621(b) and § 3624(c), the BOP has an unequivocal policy of not housing an

³ The BOP provides the following administrative process:

First, an inmate must submit a written complaint to the warden, to which the warden supplies a written response. 28 C.F.R. §§ 542.11 and 542.14. For inmates who do not obtain satisfactory relief at the first tier, the second tier allows the inmate to file an appeal with the regional director of the BOP. 28 C.F.R. § 542.15. The third, and final, tier of the formal administrative remedy process is an appeal to the National Inmate Appeals Administrator for the Office of General Counsel. *Id.* An inmate’s administrative remedies thus are considered exhausted only after pursuing a final appeal to the National Inmate Coordinator for the Office of General Counsel.

McDaniel v. Driver, No. 5:07CV133 (STAMP), 2008 WL 4279463, at *3 (N.D. W. Va. Sept. 17, 2008).

inmate in a halfway house or a CCC until the inmate is serving the last six months of his sentence. *See Miller v. Whitehead*, 527 F.3d 752, 754–56 (8th Cir. 2008) (discussing the history of litigation surrounding the aforementioned statutes). Although 18 U.S.C. § 3621(c) gives the Director of the BOP the discretion to house an inmate in any of its facilities, the BOP interpreted 18 U.S.C. § 3642(c) to limit that authority.⁴ *Id.* Specifically, the BOP refuses to transfer an inmate to a CCC until the inmate is serving the last ten percent of his sentence. *Id.* Petitioner’s argument, however, ignores the enactment of the Second Chance Act of 2007, which amended § 3624(c). Pub. L. No. 110-199, 122 Stat. 657 (2008). The amended version of § 3624(c) specifically provides that “[n]othing in this subsection shall be construed to limit or restrict the authority of the Director of the Bureau of Prisons under section 3621” to designate any available correctional or penal facility as the place of a prisoner’s confinement. 18 U.S.C. § 3624(c)(4). Petitioner has not shown that the BOP’s prior policy concerning placement in a CCC has continued after the passage of the Second Chance Act. Petitioner,

⁴ The prior version of 18 U.S.C. § 3642(c) provided that:

The Bureau of Prisons shall, to the extent practicable, assure that a prisoner serving a term of imprisonment spends a reasonable part, not to exceed six months, of the last 10 per centum of the term to be served under conditions that will afford the prisoner a reasonable opportunity to adjust to and prepare for the prisoner's re-entry into the community.

18 U.S.C. § 3624(c) (2000) (amended 2008).

therefore, fails to demonstrate that it would be futile for him to pursue his available administrative remedies for his claim that he was not considered for placement in a CCC.

See Alexander v. Hawk, 159 F.3d 1321, 1327–28 (11th Cir. 1998) (discussing benefits of requiring an inmate to exhaust his administrative remedies); *Smith v. Driver*, No.

3:07cv156, 2008 WL 2077921, at *3 (N.D. W. Va. May 15, 2008) (concluding that habeas petition challenging denial of CCC placement should be dismissed for lack of exhaustion). Accordingly, Respondent's motion to dismiss will be GRANTED. The action will be DISMISSED WITHOUT PREJUDICE.

An appropriate Order shall accompany this Memorandum Opinion.

And it is so ORDERED.

Date: Feb. 5, 2009
Richmond, Virginia

↑

/s/

Henry E. Hudson
United States District Judge